

Historic Natchez

Noted African-American author of *Native Son* and *Black Boy* was born in 1908 near Natchez, where he spent his early childhood. His lifelong quest for freedom led him to Paris, France, where he died in 1960.

Visitor's Guide

RICHARD WRIGHT

Childhood home of noted American author Richard Wright, where he lived with grandparents Richard and Margaret Wilson in the Woodlawn neighborhood. Author of *Native Son* and *Black Boy*, Wright was born outside Natchez in rural Adams County in 1908. His lifelong quest for freedom led him to Paris, France, where he died in 1960.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY, 1999

Endorsed by the Natchez Convention & Visitors Bureau, Natchez Pilgrimage Tours and The Natchez Chamber of Commerce
For your free Visitors Guide call 1-800-647-6724

The 19th Annual
Natchez Literary and Cinema
Celebration

February 20 - 24, 2008

presents

**Richard Wright, the South,
and the World:
A Centennial Celebration**



Richard Wright and his daughter, John, 1934

Headquarters:

**Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street • Natchez, Mississippi**

Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.
Locations change for certain events.

SPONSORS: COPIAH LINGCHIN'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
NATCHEZ NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK,
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY,
AND MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC BROADCASTING
with partial funding from the
MISSISSIPPI HUMANITIES COUNCIL

Interview with Carolyn Vance Smith

Fall 2008

Please describe your first meeting with Eudora Welty.

I met Miss Welty first when I read her novels and stories as an English major in college. I met her again regularly when I taught her works. Then in 1981, I got to know her personally. I was president of the alumnae association for Mississippi University for Women in Columbus and was honored to present her with the school's first Medal of Excellence. She is one of MUW's most famous alumnae. She was so easy to be with and so delightful.

Please tell how Miss Welty responded to the invitation to the NLCC.

I called her in 1989 and said, "Miss Welty, you won't remember me, but..." and she said, "Of course I remember you." I then told her Copiah-Lincoln wanted to sponsor a literary conference in 1990, and we wanted her to be a part of it. I told her the theme was "The Natchez Trace." We wanted her to read her beautiful story, "A Worn Path," which is set on the Trace. She immediately said, "The Natchez Trace is as beautiful as the Blue Ridge Parkway and not nearly as well known. We need to do something about that. Yes, I would love to come to Natchez to your conference. I love Natchez."

Please describe how Miss Welty affected you.

She literally jump-started the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. After she agreed to come, all I had to say to others we invited to speak was that she would be on the program. They all agreed to come because they wanted to meet her and be with her. At the 1990 Celebration, she mesmerized a standing-room-only audience with the reading of her story. That event is one of the highlights of my life.

Please add any other thoughts.

I'll always be grateful to Miss Welty for her generous, caring nature and her brilliant way with words. She is an inspiration to millions of readers.

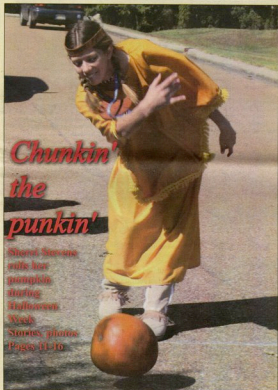
N-Sights

The campus newspaper of

Copiah-Lincoln Community College Natchez

November 2008

Vol. 36, No. 2



Chunkin' the punkin'

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Richard Wright WORKS

A new, unexpurgated edition



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Mississippi Re



Born: September 4th, 1908

Died: November 28th, 1960

Richard Nathaniel Wright

A Centennial Celebration

September 27, 2008

9:30am

Historic Natchez Foundation

108 S. Commerce Street

Natchez, MS 39120

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Historic Natchez

Visitor's Guide

Noted African-American author of *Native Son* and *Black Boy* was born in 1908 near Natchez, where he spent his early childhood. His lifelong quest for freedom led him to Paris, France, where he died in 1960.

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MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY, 1999

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RICHARD WRIGHT

Native Son

ANNIVERSARY EDITION

The Original 1946 Text



Friends of Libraries U. S. A. Literary Landmark

Richard Wright Exhibit Hall
Natchez Association for the Preservation of
African-American Culture Museum



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The 19th Annual
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
"Richard Wright, The South, and the
World: A Centennial Celebration"

February 20-24, 2008
Natchez, Mississippi

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- 23 Black Boy book covers
- 24 Madison Davis Leary, Jr., John Price
- 25 CVS, Madison Leary, Jr.

19th Annual Index NLCC Feb. 21, '08

1. Howell Garner, President c/o Lin CC
2. H.T. Holmes, Phillip West, William Ferris
3. Meyer Phillip West
4. Phillip West, Carolyn V. Smith
5. Phillip West, Carolyn V. Smith
6. Jim Barnett, Kathleen Denkin, Pat Dixon
7. Holmes, West, Ferris
8. H.T. "Henk" Holmes
9. Winter, Holmes, Garner, Barnett, Denkins
10. Bill Ferris
11. William Winter Scholars
12. Ernest Douglas, Julia Wright from Detroit
13. Ernest Douglas, Julia Wright
14. Julia Wright, Jerry Ward
15. Charles Wright, Cousin
16. Eugene Peety, Julia Wright
17. " " "
18. Jim Barnett, Duncan Morgan, CVS
19. Phillip West, Julia Wright, William Winter
20. West, Wright, Winter, Moores, CVS
21. West, Julia Wright
22. Bill Ferris, Alfreda Harrison
23. Nancy Hungerford, Magnolia Hall
24. Howell Garner, William Winter
25. Bonnie Nettles, 2 ladies Elderhostel

19th Annual NLCC Index Feb. 21, 2008

- 1 Gov. and Mrs. Winter, Marion Smith
- 2 Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Lambert
- 3 Ronnie Nettles, CUS, Howell Garner
- 4 Southern Quarterly lady, John Lowe, Doug Chambers
- 5 Mark LaFrancis, Nancy Hangerford
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- 7 Shirley Petkovsek, Elderhostel lady
- 8 Elderhostel group
- 9 "
- 10 Turning Pages, Mary Emrick
- 11 "
- 12 Mr. and Mrs. David Samsing
- 13 Judy Wiggins, John-Nancy Grice
- 14 Judy Wiggins, John Grice, CUS
- 15 "
- 16 Black Boy book covers
- 17 "
- 18 Howard Ramsey
- 19 Black Boy book covers
- 20 Southern Quarterly Lady, Douglas Chambers
- 21 Darrell White, NAPAC dinner
- 22 Betty Coleman, Joyce Borum
- 23 Nancy-John Grice, NAPAC Supper
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- 25 Mary-Jane Grader, flowers NAPAC

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19th Annual NLCC February 22-23, '08

1. Teacher - Columbus Clayton Taulbert
2. Angeletty House Reception
3. " " Tiny Teapots
4. " " Portrait Mayor West
5. Portrait ^{Portrait of a young} Richard Wright, Mrs. Clifford Marvel
6. Welcome Greeting - Two Elderhostels
7. NLT Native Son stage curtain
8. " Nicole Ballard, Casey Gilbert
9. " Curtain Call
10. " Mike Emmell
11. " Darryl Grennell Bigger Thomas
12. " " " "
13. " Carolyn S. Myles, Buzz Harper
14. Mrs. Clayton Taulbert, Howell Garner cake
15. Mr. Paul Oliver - Video by Mark LeFrancis
16. Winter Eugene Bates, Mrs. & Mrs. Garner
17. CVS, Mrs. Garner, Mr. Garner, Jim Barnett
18. " " " "
19. Mr. and Mrs. " Elderhostel 8th year
20. Garner cake
21. Dr. Howell Garner, Gov. Winter
22. " " " "
23. Virginia Salmon, Garner, Mrs. Garner, CVS
24. Teachers, Continuing Education Units
25. Alfred Teen Harrison, Bryanna Graham, Gov. Winter

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- 1 Alfred Teen Harrison, Gov. Winter
- 2 Maryemmu Graham on Margaret Walker
- 3 Julia Wright rebuts
- 4 "
- 5 Howard Ramsay "Covering Black Boy"
- 6 "
- 7 Jim Barnett - book signing
- 8 Maryemmu Graham "
- 9 Phillip Tapley (former student) Maryemmu
- 10 Maryemmu's boots
- 11 Henry Watts
- 12 Charles Wright cousin of Richard Wright
- 13 Audience - Dedication Highway Marker
- 14 Platform - Gov. Winter
- 15 Colloar Guedel
- 16 Pledge of Allegiance
- 17 Singing National Anthem
- 18 Julia Wright takes photos
- 19 Mayor Phillip Weck
- 20 State Rep. Robert Johnson
- 21 U.S. Senator Chad Cochran
- 22 Highway sign, Julia Wright, children
- 23 "
- 24 " " and children
- 25 Phillip West - Julia Wright

19th Annual NLCC February 23, 2008

- 1 Ramble- Jefferson College
- 2 " Bus drivers
- 3 " " "
- 4 " Copiah Lincoln bus
- 5 " Tour Guides
- 6 Horton Foote portrait
- 7 Richard Wright portrait
- 8 Al Uhry, Jennifer Ogden, Brooks Haxton, Lo Haxton
- 9 Ogden, Haxton, Lo Haxton, Harrison, David Sansing
- 10 David Sansing
- 11 Alfred Teen Harrison
- 12 David Sansing, Gov. Winter
- 13 Mark LeFrancis
- 14 Brooks Haxton, Lo Haxton, Alfred Teen H.
- 15 Winter, B. Haxton, D. Sansing
- 16 Winter, Al Uhry, Jennifer Ogden
- 17 Al Uhry
- 18 Brooks Haxton, Lo Haxton
- 19 Gloria Robinson, neice
- 20 Gov. Elize Winter, Lo Haxton,
- 21 Brooks Haxton, CVS, Al Uhry
- 22 Sound- Light technicians
- 23 Al Uhry- screen writer essay
- 24 Scott McDowell
- 25 Al Uhry, Scott McDowell

19th Annual NLCC February 24, 2008

- 1 Ellen Douglas Writing Workshop Mark Le F.
- 2 Mark Le Francis
- 3 " " "permission"
- 4 Judy Wiggins
- 5 Mark Le Francis - camera, Tripod
- 6 " "
- 7 Eugenie Perry,
- 8 Students, CUS, refreshments
- 9 Jerry Wood, CUS
- 10 Kenneth Taylor
- 11 Songling (John) Zheng Wright's Harbor
- 12 Jerry Wood, Julia Wright
- 13 CUS, Jerry Wood, Julia Wright
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- X 15
- 16 NLCC bill board
- 17 " " " Convention Center
- 18 " " " Hotel

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| 2/2 | 1 | William Winter Scholars |
| | 2 | " " " |
| | 3 | " " " |
| | 4 | Vance Fellows |
| | 5 | " " |
| | 6 | " " |
| | 7 | Ernest Douglas III, Gov. Winter |
| | 8 | Bill Farris, Elise, William Winter |
| | 9 | West, Winter, Wright |
| | 10 | Gov. Winter |
| | 11 | Wright Family |
| | 12 | West, Julie Wright |
| | 17 | Julie W, child |
| | 18 | Dolly S., Julie, child |
| | 19 | Black Boy 1 cover |
| | 20 | Robert Butler, Jerry Wood |
| | 21 | Math-Science Students Columbus |
| | 22 | " " " " |



Natchez Campus

McCalip selected for honor

Gwen McCalip, director of admissions and records, has been selected the Outstanding Faculty/Staff Member for the Natchez campus. McCalip will receive the award during Homecoming activities on the Wesson campus Oct. 4.

The award is sponsored by the Co-Lin Alumni Association. Other recipients will be from the Wesson campus and the Simpson County Center.

McCalip has served the Co-Lin in a variety of ways, such as acting dean, and member of the Co-Lin Foundation Board of Trustees. She is a member of the foundation's Hall of Fame. And, she has received the Co-Lin High Performance Award.



McCalip



PTK INDUCTEES

The Alpha Alpha Zeta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society inducted new members Sept. 17. They are pictured with the sponsors. Seated, from left: Celeste Buckles, Shantae Butler, Miriam Timmons, Courtney McGraw and Eric Hollowell. Standing, from left: Sponsor Nancy McLemore, Danielle Thornton, Cain Madden, April Roberts, Ebony Campbell, Rosaline Jackson, Amy Partridge, Gwen Pierce, Jonathan Beasley and Sponsor Kenneth Taylor.

CAMPUS ELECTION RESULTS

The campus concluded its election season on Sept. 19, with students choosing Mr. and Miss Co-Lin Natchez, Favorites, and Homecoming Maids.

Jamal Banks was elected Mr. Co-Lin Natchez; Dalauna Butler was elected Miss Co-Lin Natchez. Favorites are: sophomores Kim Watkins, William Jones and Jarnee Sullivan; freshmen Antoine Battiste, Jordan Morrison and Chanda Graham.

Homecoming maids are sophomores Ashley Butler (Dalauna's sister) and Elizabeth Cowan; freshmen Lacie Hicks and Kallie Swoveland.

CAMPUS TO HOST BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FORUM

The Adams County Board of Supervisors will have an open forum Tuesday, Sept. 23, beginning at 7:30 a.m. in the W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room. The forum is sponsored by the Natchez-Adams County Chamber of Commerce. Supervisors will answer questions posed by the chamber and then take questions from the audience. The breakfast program is part of a series of forums sponsored by the chamber. Breakfast is \$8 at the door. The public is invited.

MCLEMORE PARTICIPATES IN STATE CONVENTION

Library Director Nancy McLemore will be participating in the Mississippi Library Association's Convention in Natchez Oct. 21-24. The participants will attend a meeting at the Natchez campus on Oct. 22. McLemore is past chair of the convention meeting group.

CAMPUS CO-SPONSORING RICHARD WRIGHT EVENT

A free 100th-birthday symposium honoring the nationally known Natchez author Richard Wright will be held 9:30 a.m.-noon, Sat., Sept. 27, at Historic Natchez Foundation, 108 S. Commerce St. Featured speaker is Wright scholar Jerry W. Ward Jr. of Dillard University, New Orleans. Also on the agenda are Mark LaFrancis and Charles Wright of Natchez, who will present visual programs about Wright, his family and his works. Sponsors of the event are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Historic Natchez Foundation, Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture and Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, in association with Road Scholar and Educational Travel Associates.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Carolyn Vance Smith, co-chairman of the Co-Lin sponsored Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, recently attended the 100th birthday celebration for Gilmor McLaurin, long-time member of the Co-Lin Board of Trustees. McLaurin now lives in Kentucky near his family.

**Fall Break
October 9-10**

Please contact Mark LaFrancis in the Office of Public Information at the Natchez Campus if you have any information that you would like to place in the Natchez News section of Wolf Tracks. He can be reached at extension 205 or by email at mark.lafrancis@colin.edu

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2008

Symposium to honor Natchez author

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — Natchez's own "native son," the widely-known author, Richard Wright, will be honored at a free public symposium in Natchez on Saturday.

The event is scheduled during the month of Wright's birth near Natchez on Sept. 4, 1908.

Featured speaker is the renowned Richard Wright scholar, Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr., professor of English and African World Studies at Dillard University, New Orleans.

Ward, who holds a doctoral degree from the University of Virginia, served as co-editor of the brand-new Richard Wright Encyclopedia; was founding member of the Richard Wright Circle; and for years portrayed Richard Wright in the Mississippi Humanities Council's Mississippi Chautauqua Writers series.

Also on the program is Mark LaFrancis, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez, who will present a new documentary film, "Richard Wright: A Force for Right." The film was researched and produced by LaFrancis and a group of Co-Lin film studies students during 2007-08.

In addition, Charles Wright of Natchez, the Wright family historian, will present an original PowerPoint program, "The Richard Wright Rumble," which features sites in Southwest Mississippi associated with the author and his family.

The event will be at the Historic Natchez Foundation, 108 S. Commerce St. from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

"We felt it very appropriate to have a special event in Natchez during September of this year, Richard Wright's centennial year," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College

"Natchez and Southwest Mississippi were very influential in shaping Wright's formative years."

Carolyn Vance Smith

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

in Natchez.

Smith is founder of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, a conference that featured Richard Wright and his works at its 19th annual event in February 2008.

"Richard Wright's works are now included in school and college anthologies, and hundreds of thousands of people around the world know and respect his writings," Smith said. "Natchez and Southwest Mississippi were very influential in shaping Wright's formative years."

Wright is famous for more than a dozen books, including such national bestsellers as "Native Son" and "Black Boy." A novelist, poet, screenplay writer, and essayist, Wright was also intensely interested in drama, film acting and music.

Wright moved from the South to Chicago and later to New York prior to moving to Paris, France, where he died

in 1960.

Numerous Wright relatives still live in the Natchez area, including Richard Wright's cousin, Charles Wright, who has spent several years researching the family history and genealogy. His PowerPoint program was originated for the 2008 NLCC and was presented prior to a guided tour of Southwest Mississippi sites associated with the Wright family.

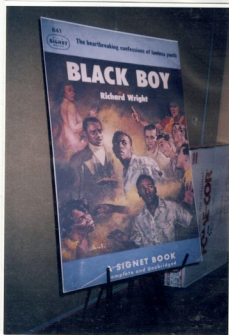
Co-sponsors of the symposium are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Historic Natchez Foundation, Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture and Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The program is presented in association with Road Scholar, Inc., of Boston, and Carolyn Vance Smith of Co-Lin, founder/co-chairman of the NLCC and president of Educational Travel Associates, Inc.

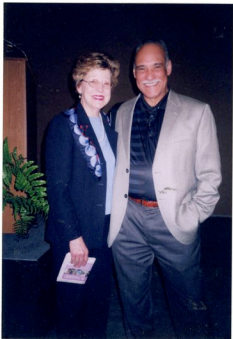
Each year ETA sponsors week-long Road Scholar programs in Natchez. Several members of Road Scholar from across the country will be in Natchez Sept. 23-28 and will attend the Richard Wright event.

Presiding at the symposium will be Darrell S. White, director of NAPAC. During the mid-morning break on Saturday, NAPAC will serve refreshments.

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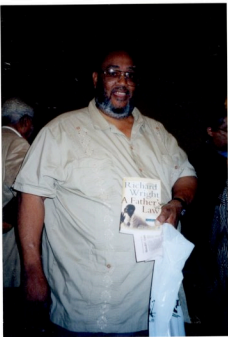


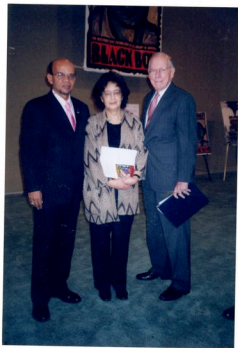
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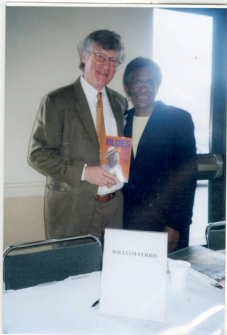




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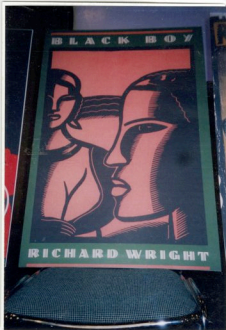
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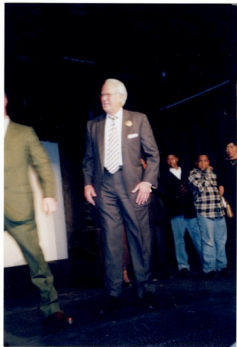
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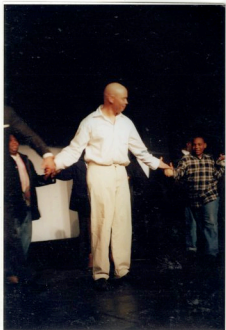
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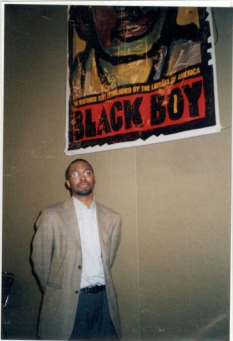


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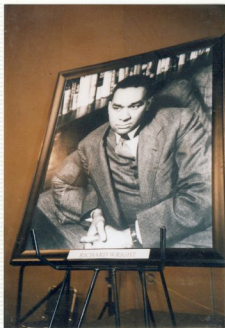
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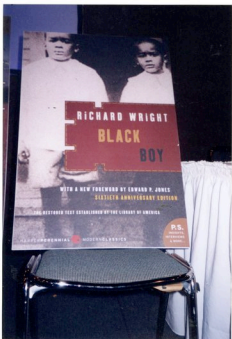
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Celebrating Richard Wright



A year-long celebration of the life and work of Richard Wright through book readings and discussions leading to the 100th anniversary of his birth in 2008.

*With Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr.
Professor of English and African World
Studies, Dillard University
New Orleans*



All discussion sessions are free and open to the public. Participants are strongly encouraged to read the book of the month prior to attending the discussion session.

Books available at the Judge George W. Armstrong Library, 220 S. Commerce St., Natchez

For more information, contact:

Susan Cassagne, Library Director, 601-445-8862, scassagne@naw.lib.ms.us

<u>Date/time</u>	<u>Literary Work</u>	<u>Location (all in Natchez, except where indicated)</u>
Jan. 18/6-8 p.m.	"Uncle Tom's Children"	Alcorn State University - Natchez School of Business Auditorium
Feb. 25/11 a.m.-1 p.m.	"Lawd Today"	Copiah-Lincoln Community College - Natchez W.L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room
March 3/1-5 p.m.	"Native Son" and "Rite of Passage" (Film and lecture on novel, stage and film version)	NAPAC Museum, 301 Main St.
April 21/1-3 p.m.	"Black Boy"	Natchez Little Theatre, 319 Linton Ave.
May 5/2-4 p.m.	"12 Million Black Voices"	Natchez High School Auditorium, 319 Seargent S. Prentiss Drive
June 9/1:30-3:30 p.m.	"Eight Men"	Historic Natchez Foundation, 108 S. Commerce St.
July 21/1:30-3:30 p.m.	"This Other World: Haiku"	Concordia Library Meeting Room, 405 Carter St. Vidalia, LA
Aug. 4/1:30-3:30 p.m.	"Black Power"	Natchez Visitors Center, 640 S. Canal St.
Sept. 8/1:30-3:30 p.m.	"The Color Curtain"	Judge George W. Armstrong Library, 220 S. Commerce St.
Oct. 18/6-8 p.m.	"Pagan Spain"	Trinity Episcopal Day School, 321 Highway 61 S.
Nov. 24/3:30-5:30 p.m.	"White Man Listen"	River Explorer Theater, Natchez Under-the-Hill
Dec. 2/2-4 p.m.	"The Long Dream"	Cathedral School, 701 Martin Luther King Jr. St.

Sessions co-sponsored by The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, www.colin.edu/nlcc

Copiah-Lincoln Community College and The Natchez Richard Wright Centennial Celebration Committee

This project is partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Howell C. Garner, retiring Co-Lin president, to be saluted

"Howell Garner Day" at the NLCC on Sat., Feb. 23, will honor the president of Cepish-Lincoln Community College as he nears retirement in June 2008.

"This special day will also recognize Dr. Garner's important part in the founding and the annual continuation of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration," said Carolyn Vasco Smith, longtime educator at Co-Lin's Natchez campus.

"Without his vision, what was a mere figment of my imagination in 1969 would never have become reality," she said.

The first discussion of a possible literary and historical conference in Natchez took place when Garner and Smith were attending an annual session of National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development, a national conference, at The University of Texas at Austin in May 1969.

"I looked around at 1,500 educators at that conference and thought maybe Co-Lin's Natchez campus could offer such a conference in Natchez, just on a lesser scale," Smith said.

"The idea came to me because we were struggling to get funding to build a new academic building at Co-Lin Natchez," she said. "We had

outgrown the tiny campus at Washington, Miss., and we had failed to get the necessary commitment from local government leaders to build new, larger facilities.

"I was head of the English Department but also Director of Co-Lin's Public Relations. I was challenged to come up with something that would attract favorable attention from the Natchez community so people would support funding the new building," Smith said.

Garner, who for years had been in charge of Co-Lin's Natchez campus prior to moving in 1985 to the Academic Dean's position at Co-Lin's Wesson campus, knew the Natchez campus's needs.

"Dr. Garner was very receptive to my suggestion that the Natchez campus could sponsor an educational conference that would benefit our students and the whole community," Smith said. "I told him we might attract as many as 100 people."

Garner agreed that his reaction



Howell C. Garner

was positive. "I told Mrs. Smith I liked the idea," he said. "I told her to put something in writing, and I would take it to Dr. Billy Thomas, president of Co-Lin at the time, and to the Co-Lin Board of Trustees.

"In no time, we had the approval and the funding in place," Garner said. "The first conference, called the Natchez Literary Celebration, took place in June 1990. It was a huge hit. Instead of 100 people, we had more than 1,000 people.

"We were absolutely delighted at the response."

Assisting Co-Lin with the development of the first NLC were the Mississippi Humanities Council, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Mississippi Public Broadcasting and many other agencies and institutions.

"A few weeks after the conference in 1990, I had a call from Stuart Johnson, the first superintendent of the Natchez National Historical Park," Smith said. "He called to ask if the NNHP could co-sponsor with Co-Lin the 1991 NLC.

"I was astounded! Dr. Garner, Dr. Thomas and all of the rest of us at Co-Lin felt we had an official stamp of approval from the federal government."

Approval from local government officials soon followed, with funding from the Adams County Board of Supervisors for the Natchez campus's academic building in place by the early 1990s.

"The building was ready for occupancy by late fall of 1995," Garner said. "Co-Lin moved in during Christmas break, and classes began in the new facility in January 1996."

Garner has remained a major supporter of the NLCC, which changed its name slightly in 2001 to Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration to reflect its inclusion of educational films.

He has served as opening facilitator since becoming president of Co-Lin in 1997, and has assisted annually with fund-raising, programming and promotion.

"This conference has helped Co-Lin, the Natchez community, the state and the nation for nearly 20 years," Garner said. "I am proud to have been a part of it since its inception. It is one of the finest things Co-Lin has to offer."

On Howell Garner Day, Garner will be guest of honor at a 10-10 a.m. reception in the Convention Center lobby. The event is free and open to the public.

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The Natchez Democrat

SUNDAY EDITION



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2006

1B

WEEK'S EVENTS: Elderhostel to be a part of Wright celebration. 6A

REGIONAL DIGEST

NLCC to celebrate work of Garner on Saturday

MEMPHIS—Howell Garner Day will be celebrated Saturday at the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration to honor the retiring president of Co-
lin Smith of CoLin, co-chairman of the NLCC. "This Steering Committee wants to thank him by hosting Howell Garner Day."



Garner

Garner will be introduced at 10 a.m. at the Natchez Convention Center by CoLin President-elect Ronald "Ronnie" Nottles. Afterward a reception in Garner's honor will take place in the Convention Center lobby.

The event is free and open to the public.

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

TAKING STAGE



BY MICHAEL J. HARRIS

Bigger Thomas, played by Darryl Greenwell, and Buddy, played by Jonah Bushell, catch a large black rat in Thomas' house in the ghetto of south side Chicago. The scene is part of the Natchez Little Theatre's production of "Native Son," a novel by Richard Wright. The play is being presented in conjunction with this week's Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

2-10-06

2009 part 2
page 86

Young writers get chance to voice beliefs

BY VERNAL HOGAN
THE NATCHES DEMOCRAT

NATCHES — Being young doesn't mean you can't have beliefs.

That's the premise of the Chocolate Milk Café, an event associated with the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, geared to getting local children to participate in the world of writing.

Fifth and sixth grade students from three local schools — Adams

County Christian School, Morgantown Elementary School and Vidalia Upper Elementary School — submitted poems, essays or narratives on the theme of "Young Writers Say: This I Believe."

As for 11-year-old Ryan Lackey, one of the sixth graders at ACCS whose essay was selected, he believes war is wrong and there should be no more wars.

The decision to write his es-



say came after reflecting on past conflicts, Lackey said.

"I just thought that a lot of people have died in wars and we should honor that," he said.

The reasons the Chocolate Milk Café was started was to let the young people of the Mias-Lou have a way to become connected to the NLCC, said Mark LaFrancis, director of public information at Copiah-Lincoln Com-

munity College in Natchez.

"We had realized that even though the NLCC was a wonderful event encompassing all facets of fine literature and film, younger people needed to have a voice in it too," LaFrancis said.

A total of 33 entries were chosen, and the young wordsmiths who crafted them will be allowed to read them before a live audience at the Chocolate Milk Café

50 WRITERS, 1A 2-21-09

WRITERS: Tickets are required to attend event at Armstrong

FROM PAGE 1A

at the Armstrong Library at 2 p.m. Saturday.

"It's very much like an old style coffeehouse reading, except we serve the kids chocolate milk instead of coffee," LaFrancis said.

Lackey said he was surprised to find out his essay had been chosen, but he's not nervous about reading in front of the group Saturday.

"Monday I read in front of about 100 people at school, so I think I can handle it," he said.

The event will be open only to those who have tickets. Tickets are available at the Armstrong Library.

THE AUTHORS

Young authors chosen to participate in the Chocolate Milk Café:

ADAMS COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL:

Amber Frye "This I Believe"

Ryan Lackey "This I Believe"

Brant Pugh "This I Believe In"

MORGANTOWN SCHOOL:

Jakeira Brown "My Dream"

Aaliyah Buchanan "I Believe in Peace"

Terrika Fleming "This I Believe"

Katherine Gines "This I Believe"

Preston Gordon "I Believe"

Derhauntra Green "I Believe"

Alajawon Tykewen Isaac "Completing Goals"

Myisha Miller "I Believe in God"

Montay Mullins "This I Believe"

Shasta Sautier "Achieving My Goals"

Charlise White "I Believe"

VIDALIA UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

Taylor Perkins "This I Believe"

Joanette Taylor "This I Believe"

Adam Willis "This I Believe"

2-21

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THE WRIGHT DAUGHTER



MARCUS FRADIER / THE NACHEZ DEMOCRAT

Mayor Phillip West presents Julia Wright with a key to the city and a proclamation stating that Feb. 21 will be Richard Wright Day, as former Mississippi Gov. William Winter looks on. Winter was also presented with a key to the city.

Julia Wright speaks about father's works

BY MARY HOOD
THE NACHEZ DEMOCRAT

NACHEZ — Julia Wright, daughter of Natchez native author Richard Wright, spoke of the hope and despair found not just in her father's books but in his life Thursday at the keynote address for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Wright's speech was about two elements, which she said were great themes in her father's literature. The first is the ability to move from pain to forgiveness.

She first quoted Mahatma Gandhi who said it takes great strength to be able to forgive.

She spoke of an incident, which will be appearing in her upcoming memoir: "Richard Wright, Daughter of a Native Son."

She said one of her earliest memories is of a time when her maternal grandmother was

washing her hair, but to Wright, it felt like her grandmother was trying to rip her hair out.

Wright said it upset her that her grandmother was hurting her so badly and she begged her to stop.

"I scream 'No, no, grandma, it hurts,' but she does not listen, she continues, it's so painful," Wright said.

Later in life, Wright learned that her grandmother was a Jew from Poland and had experienced extreme forms of hatred in the times of the Holocaust.

Wright said her grandmother was illiterate and emotionally illiterate and her way of channeling her own personal pain was to hurt her granddaughter.

With this understanding, Wright said she was able to forgive her grandmother and from this came a new emotion.

**"Behind
forgiveness, there
flows an emotion
called hope."**

Julia Wright
keynote speaker

SEE WRIGHT, 3A

2-22-08

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WRIGHT: Author's daughter talks to Literary Celebration crowd about hope, despair and emotion

FROM PAGE 1A

"Behind forgiveness, there flows an emotion called hope," Wright said.

She said she wanted to examine in her speech why hope is so important and why it's so important in the work of her father.

She said it's so important because in the midst of despair and pain, people need to focus on their ability to hope.

"Hope unites us all," she said. "It's no question of color anymore. We are all capable of despair. We are all capable of hope."

In a world of war and racism, she said, people need to not be consumed by the bad but instead focus on hope.

She said her father's story is so full of despair, yet he was such a hopeful man.

"Richard Wright's story is not an American success story.

"It's full of pain, the worst kind of pain," Wright said.

"Because Richard was willing to go down to the bottom of his blues, he was able to push the floor of despair and shove himself back to the surface of the inkly waters and breathe and hope."

Wright compared her father and his writings to him opening Pandora's Box.

"Richard reminds me of the Pandora legend," she said. "He asks forbidden ques-

tions, unravels secret codes of racism, brings the ghost out of the box; and it's difficult and threatening at the bottom of the box."

She reminded the audience of what was left in Pandora's Box after the bad things escaped: hope.

"The works of my father are threaded with hope," she said.

After Wright's speech on despair and hope, Mayor Phillip West asked all descendants of

Richard Wright in the room to come up front. Between 20 and 30 people gathered before the podium.

"I as mayor of the city of Natchez, on behalf of the city of Natchez, I do proclaim Feb. 21, 2008, as Richard Wright's day in Natchez, Miss.," West said.

He also presented the Wright family a key to the city.

The NLCC continues through Sunday.

2-22-08

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2008

LITERARY CELEBRATION

NLCC honors Wright

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — One of Natchez's most famous native sons, Richard Wright, will be honored this week throughout the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The conference theme is "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration." Headquarters is the Natchez Convention Center on Main Street.

"The conference will allow us

to get acquainted with the human side of Richard Wright while we explore his life, his works and his continuing influence," said Carolyn Vance Smith, longtime educator at Copiah Lincoln Community College in Natchez.

Smith and Co-Lin founded the NLCC in 1990.

"Richard Wright was born on a plantation a few miles east of Natchez in 1908," she said. "Though he had only a ninth-grade education, and though he had to overcome desperate poverty, he achieved international fame for his writing."

Wright died in Paris, France, in 1960.

"The NLCC is kicking off a world-wide tribute to Richard Wright this year. We expect large crowds, including numerous Wright relatives from across the country."



Wright

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Natchez Association for the Preservation
of Afro-American History & Culture
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* NAPAC Founders

We encourage you to become a member of NAPAC, and to assist us in the development of the Richard N. Wright Exhibit Hall at the Museum. Applications are available at the entry desk

Special Thanks

Dan's Catering

Jo Smith, Toastist

S.P.A. Special Event Committee

Barry White, Chairman

Food to be big part of week

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — Richard Wright, the famous writer born near Natchez in 1908, endured extreme hardships and poverty and often went hungry as a child and young adult, said his daughter, Julia Wright of Paris, France.

"My father was fascinated by food," she said. "Scenes featuring food show up repeatedly in his books, including the autobiographical Black Boy.

"I do remember, of course, the famous meal in Black Boy when his mother made soup and a big platter of fried chicken, and my father was so afraid the preacher would eat all the fried chicken.

"For someone who had known true hunger," she said, "food was an important part of my father's life."

Richard Wright went on to international fame as the author of such blockbusters as "Native Son," "White Man Listen" and "Uncle Tom's Children," a collection of stories that has been chosen as Book of the Year for 2008 by the statewide "Mississippi Reads" project. After leaving Natchez, he lived in Jackson, Memphis, Chicago and New York before moving to Paris, where he died in 1960.

Wright's favorite foods will be

151 FOOD, 1A



Richard Wright Dinner

19th Annual

Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration

February 21, 2008

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Welcome

The Natchez Association for the Preservation
of Afro-American History & Culture is so very proud to host
this dinner in honor of our "Native Son"

Richard Nathaniel Wright.

The menu for this evening was selected upon
recommendations made by Wright's daughter Julia
regarding some of her fathers favorite foods.

We Hope That You Enjoy

Menu

Baked Chicken w Tarragon Rice

Shrimp Pasta

Turnip Greens

California Mixed Vegetables

Corn Bread

Green Salad

Banana Ice Cream

Chocolate Cake

Lemonade / Iced Tea

Entertainment

Ms. Jo Smith

Natchez, a Mecca of history, boasts of the rich cultural history of its people.

At the Natchez Museum, there are artifacts that interpret the life, history and culture of Afro-Americans in Mississippi with special emphasis on Natchez.

We are especially pleased to have on exhibit:

- The Portraits of Black Natchez (1880-1920) (*The Norman Collection owned by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Gandy of Natchez*)
- Rhythm Night Club Fire (1940)
- The Barland Family (1782-1920)
- Mattie Williams Evans Hand made Wedding Gown (1902)
- Pinta DE Castas Paintings (1775)
- Natchez Beginnings of America's Cotton Kingdom (1795-1920)

See the past come to life:

- The One-Room Schoolhouse
- The Church that built character
- Natchez Civil Rights
- The Ageless Home that built character (*Late 1800s through World War II*)
- Farming and Business Artifacts
- NAPAC Video

DONATION:

Adults \$5.00 Youth \$1.00
Group rates available upon request of
10 or more

A BLACK HISTORY QUIZ ABOUT NATCHEZ

DO YOU KNOW:

THE name of the black slave woman who taught reading to the children of her owner in Natchez?

THE name of the university educated African Prince who was captured in battle and sold into slavery to a farmer in Natchez?

THE name of the free black man who wrote a diary of his life as a slave owner in Natchez?

THE name of the black sailor from Natchez who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroism in the Civil War?

THE name of the black lawyer whose grave is marked by the only bronze bust in the Natchez cemetery?

THE name of the first black man to be elected to the United States House of Representatives from Natchez?

THE name of the black man and women who represent Natchez in local, county, state and/or Federal governments today?



We invite you to visit the museum.

HOURS:

Tuesday - Saturday
1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Other tours by appointment

NO TOUR TOO SMALL
(601) 445-0728

Holiday hours posted prior to each holiday

PARKING IN THE REAR OF THE BUILDING

**NAPAC
NATCHEZ MUSEUM OF
AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORY
AND CULTURE**

301 MAIN STREET
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI 39120
TELEPHONE: 601-445-0728

"We exist to tell our story"



"DINAH"

The Singing Woman
LaVern Hamberlin, Artist

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The Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture, NAPAC, was created in 1990 to present and preserve cultural and historical contributions of Afro-Americans in the growth of Natchez and the nation.

In 1979 Mary Lee Davis-Toles began developing the concept of preserving Natchez Afro-American history and culture. After many years of groundwork, on Sunday, February 17, 1990 Mary Lee Davis-Toles, Patricia A Washington, Josie Anderson, Flora Terrell and Mary White formed NAPAC. The group applied for a charter and one was approved in March of 1990.

The mission of the organization is to research, collect, exhibit, interpret and preserve materials depicting Black Life. The organization, commonly known as NAPAC, brings to life the Black experience through photography, lectures and exhibits of art and artifacts. Special emphasis is placed on local and state Blacks; however, some National Black experiences are presented.

The support and contributions of the public help NAPAC to preserve and showcase the courage, struggles, achievements and aspirations of Blacks, both in the past and in the present.

On May 4, 1991 NAPAC opened its museum doors at 307A Market Street. However, in February 1998 a tornado tore the roof off the building and all the valuables had to be removed and restored. On September 11, 1999 NAPAC reopened the museum at its present location, only two blocks from the first location.

Both locations ("The Old Waterworks Building" and "The Old Post Office") are provided through an agreement with the City of Natchez.

At the end of the first grand opening the founders together made this statement, "together, we reaffirmed that we would indeed exist to tell our story". And so began the Natchez Museum of Afro-American History and Culture.



THE NATCHEZ MUSEUM
OF AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORY
AND CULTURE
IS OPERATED BY
THE NATCHEZ ASSOCIATION FOR
THE PRESERVATION OF
AFRO-AMERICAN
HISTORY AND CULTURE

For statewide travel information,
call 1-800 WADJEST.
The South's Warmest Welcome

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NAPAC MEMBERSHIP FORM

To become a supporting member in the following categories, fill out this form and mail to:

NAPAC

Mailing address: P. O. Box 1844
Natchez, MS 39121

[] Mr. [] Mrs. [] Ms. [] Dr.

[] Other _____

NAME

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP

()

AREA CODE AND TELEPHONE NUMBER

YEARLY DUES: gives free admittance to the museum for one year

PLEASE MARK THE CATEGORY

- [] STUDENTS - \$5.00
[] ADULTS - \$10.00
[] FAMILY - \$15.00

All other donations graciously accepted!

Major restoration is underway in the home of the Natchez Museum of Afro-American History and Culture located on Main Street in Downtown Historic Natchez.

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The cast of the Natchez Little Theatre, which performed "Native Son" during the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, is, front row from left, Nicole Ballard, Adrienne Bushnell, Carolyn Myles, Byron Bradley, Mike Gemmell, Stacey Carden, John Harter and Tammy White; second row, Royal Hill Jr., Antonio Williams, Aaron White, Johan Bushnell, Kristin Hoggan, Darryl V. Grennell, Janey Dixey, Elaine Harter, Cain Madden, Laurie Williams and Landon Henry; third row, Don Bates and Casey Gilbert; fourth row, Jessie Hayden III and Dwight Williams.

NLCC rounds out week's good news

What a week. It was a busy one in the Miss-Lou, with dozens in town for the annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Let's review some of the good news last week brought.

► The NLCC carried new significance this year, as organizers honored Natchez's own Richard Wright. Wright's daughter Julia delivered the keynote address, and three worthy writers were honored Saturday night at the awards banquet.

From all accounts NLCC 2008 was a success, and we are happy to have once again had such a wonderful event in our city.

► But just as quickly as the NLCC ends, the biggest event of the year in Natchez must get under way — Spring Pilgrimage. Children are already working hard to learn their parts in the Historic Natchez Pageant. As practice continues in the coming weeks, our town will put on its best face to invite the world in.

► Principals from Central Alternative, West Primary and Frazier Primary gave quarterly reports to the Natchez-Adams School Board last week, and things sound good. Teacher and administrators work throughout the year to prepare students for state tests. They do a battery of their own testing to track progress, and right now, students are improving, the principals said.

Other great headlines this week included the groundbreaking ceremony for Promise Hospital of the Miss-Lou and a report from city leaders about a positive visit with U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker. Officials are hopeful Wicker will help provide funding for several projects in town.

As February comes to a close, we know there is still time for more good news in the Miss-Lou.

Elderhostel program celebrating Wright this week

2-17-08

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ—The life and works of Richard Wright, a famed native son of Natchez, will be celebrated on the centennial of his birth at the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration this week.

Elderhostel, in association with Copiah-Lincoln Community College, will take participants on a five-day educational adventure and provide a front-row seat to experience lectures, workshops, a live performance, food and friends dedicated to the memory of one of the most acclaimed black authors of all time.

Elderhostel is a not-for-profit organization with more than 30 years of experience providing exceptional learning opportunities through educational travel programs throughout the world for adults at remarkable values.

Elderhostel's newest programming initiative is Road Scholar—designed for a new generation of independent educational travelers.

"As Elderhostel and Road Scholar develop experiences that are culturally significant to the black community, the Natchez program is exciting for anyone interested in American history, while highlighting the works of an African American icon," said James Moses, president and CEO of Elderhostel.

"Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration" is the conference theme of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Wright wrote such blockbusters as "Native Son," "Black Boy," "Lawd Today," "White Man Listen" and "Uncle Tom's Children," which has been cho-

sen as Book of the Year for the Mississippi Reads Project.

He was born in 1908 near Natchez and died in 1960 in Paris, France.

"He will come alive during the conference; his love of family books, music, food, drama, photography, film and acting will be discussed, along with scholarly criticism of his works," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the event.

His daughter, Julia Wright, of Paris will attend along with dozens of family members from around the world.

The first "Richard Wright Ramble," a docent-led exploration of sites associated with Richard Wright and the Wright family, is being organized by Charles Wright of Natchez, a cousin who is a family historian.

The exploration includes Natchez-area home places, churches, schools, cemeteries and locations featured in Wright's novels.

In addition to programs are films, documentaries, a dramatic version of Native Son by the Natchez Little Theatre, meals featuring Wright's favorite foods, writing workshops, exhibits and the option to participate in a gala benefit reception and dinner at the historic mansion, The Towers.

The conference is highlighted with the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, which is being presented to three outstanding writers with southern roots. The awards ceremony, taking place at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 23, honors Lerone Bennett, Jr., Chicago, Ill., editor of Ebony and author of Before the Mayflower: A His-

tory of Black America 1619-1968, Great Moments in Black History and more than a dozen other books; Brooks Haxton, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y., an accomplished poet and author of Upstream: Anthologies to Psalms and many other volumes of poetry.

The Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting, named in

honor of the Pulitzer Prize-winning screenwriter, will be presented to another Pulitzer Prize-winner, Alfred Uhry, a Georgia native now of New York City. Uhry is a noted playwright, lyricist and screenwriter of Driving Miss Daisy, The Robber Bridegroom, Mystic Pizza, and Rich in Love.

Driving Miss Daisy will be screened following the awards

ceremony, with a discussion session led by Uhry and Dixon McDowell, professor of film at the University of Southern Mississippi.

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Natchez State Park
Rucker

Clover Hill

Bay Ridge


Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Presents
"The Richard Wright Ramble"
A Guided Tour with Transportation
1:30 - 4 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 23, 2008
Departing from and Returning to
Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street

\$20

No. 177

Rowandale

Richard Wright Hwy.

Traveler's

Rest

Mount
Welcomed

Sandy Creek
Sunny
Side

U.S. 90
Natchez
State
Park

U.S. 90
Natchez
State
Park

U.S. 90
Natchez
State
Park

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WATCHING WRIGHT



APRIL 24/25, 1988 THE NACHEZ CONVENTION CENTER

University of Southern Mississippi Professor John D. W. Guice gives opening remarks before a screening of "Richard Wright: Black Boy," a documentary of the life of Richard Wright, Wednesday evening at the Natchez Convention Center. The 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will continue today at the Natchez Convention Center and scheduled events will continue through Sunday.

2-21-88

The 19th Annual
Natchez Literary and
Cinema Celebration
presents

*Richard Wright,
the South,
And the World:
A Centennial
Celebration*

At
*The Carriage House
Restaurant*

On the Grounds of
Stanton Hall
Natchez, Mississippi
(601) 445-5151

Friday, February 22, 2008

The 19th Annual
Natchez Literary and Cinema
Celebration

February 20 - 24, 2008
presents

***Richard Wright, the South,
and the World:
A Centennial Celebration***



Richard Wright and his daughter, Julia, 1964

Headquarters:
Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street • Natchez, Mississippi

Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.
Locations change for certain events.

SPONSORS: COPLAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
NATCHEZ NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK,
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY,
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2007-2008

THE
CO-LIN
LECTURE
SERIES



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RICHARD WRIGHT, THE SOUTH, AND THE WORLD: A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



ORDER OF EVENTS

Welcome

Dean Teresa Harrison

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Dr. Robert Butler, Canisius College, Buffalo, N.Y.

Ashley Butler

**Book Discussion: "Uncle Tom's Children: A Revolutionary New Direction in
American and African-American Literature"**

Introduction of Film Maker

Mark LaFrancis, Co-Lin College, Natchez

Jamal Banks

Presentation of mini-documentary: "Richard Wright: A Force for Right"

Plaque Presentation- George Jackson

Mark LaFrancis

Closing Remarks

Dajauna Butler



In Co-LiN *The Place to Be* NATCHEZ



Campus newsletter - January 7, 2008

President Howell C. Garner to retire

Former dean of the Natchez campus saying farewell after 34 years

Dr. Ronnie Nettles, also a former Natchez campus dean, to lead Co-Lin

Just prior to the Christmas break, Dr. Howell C. Garner gathered the Natchez campus employees in an early morning meeting Dec. 7 to announce his retirement at the end of the 2007-2008 school year.

Garner, former dean of the Natchez campus, was given a standing ovation for his service to Co-Lin. Garner was teacher and administrator at Co-Lin Natchez from 1974 to 1985, when he was promoted dean of the Co-Lin district.

He was named president in 1997.

"I have had the pleasure and good fortune to serve with many truly outstanding faculty members, some of whom have been affectionately titled "icons"

in the history and tradition of this college," Garner said. "In addition, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with many outstanding professional support staff members throughout my 34 years at Co-Lin. It has been a great experience for me and for my family to be a part of the Co-Lin family."

During his tenure, the Natchez campus was consolidated into its existing facilities, and enrollment nearly tripled. He also has overseen tremendous growth at the Wesson campus and the creation of the Simpson County Center, which has an enrollment of more than 300 students.

"One of the things that I have most enjoyed is to have been a



Garner

part of so many outstanding programs, such as the student organizations which have represented the college in an outstanding fashion

through the years," Garner said.

Garner earned another standing ovation when he announced that Dr. Ronnie Nettles would succeed him as president beginning July 1.

Nettles was dean of the Natchez campus from 1997 through 2004, when he was promoted to executive vice president of the Co-Lin district.

Garner said he has plans

for his retirement but did not disclose them at the announcement.

He will be closing his tenure as president on a high note for the Natchez campus.

On Nov. 26 the Adams County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved Co-Lin's request for a continuation of the county's \$370,000 annual allotment to Co-Lin. The funds will be used to build a Health Sciences Building, and pave the way for Co-Lin Natchez to expand its building trades programs.

Securing funding for those projects and programs has been a high priority for Garner.

Following the announcement, both Dr. Garner and Dr. Nettles were showered with handshakes and even hugs from faculty and staff.



SOJOURNERS TO PERFORM: The Sojourners, a Broadway-style song-and-dance group from the Wesson campus, will perform at the Natchez campus on Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2008, at 11 a.m. in the W.L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room. The concert is free and open to the public. The Sojourners are comprised of (not in order in photograph) Jeff Winstead of Mendenhall, Jasmine Watts of McComb, DeVon Blackmon-White of Natchez, Scott Mullins and Claire Johnson of Wesson, Blair Wall of Loyd Star, Michael Slocum and Rebekah Graves of Tylertown, Melissa Stansell of Centerville and Jake Godard of Brookhaven.

New semester begins

Welcome back to all our students and staff. We hope you have a successful semester and new year.

The spring semester usually is filled with many events and activities such as: Awards Night in April, Black History Month in February, the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in February, performances by singers from the Natchez Festival of Music in April, election of our Student Government Association president, The Sojourners' performance on Feb. 6, Industry Appreciation Day in April, Spring Fling in April,

our annual Natchez Golf Classic Tournament in April, and, of course, graduation on May 16.

Other events may already be in the planning stages, and organizations usually conduct a variety of fund-raisers.

So, keep an eye on the bulletin boards because you won't want to miss out on these and other events.

You also need to mark your calendars for the days Co-Lin will close: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Jan. 21, Spring Break March 10-14 and Easter Holiday March 21 and 24.

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Sensibility to Nature in Richard Wright's Haiku

An empty sickbed;
An indented white pillow
In weak winter sun.

I am nobody:
A red sinking autumn sun
Took my name away.

As the sun goes down
A green melon splits open
And juice trickles out.

From a tenement,
The blue jazz of a trumpet
Weaving autumn mists.

Over yellow corn,
As muted as the sunset,
The low of a cow.

From across the lake,
Past the black winter trees,
Faint sounds of a flute.

From the skyscraper,
All the bustling streets converge
Towards a spring sea.

The cathedral bell
Is now rocking the spring moon
Upon the river.

From a green hilltop,
One tolling cathedral bell
Tints the spring sky blue.

Sitting in the park,
Hearing the sound of an axe
Rippling the lake.

A spring moon so round
That my fingers are itching
To touch its sharp edge.

In a misty rain
A butterfly is riding
The tail of a cow.

The harbor at dawn:
The faint scent of oranges
On gusts of March wind.

Lifting the lantern,
The scent of plums on the tree
Became more fragrant.

Just before sunrise,
And after the milkman has gone,
A jonquil blooms.

In the afterglow
A snow-covered mountain peak
Sings of loneliness.

With the forest trees cut,
The lake lies naked and lost
In the bare hills.

Sparrow's excrement
Becomes quickly powdery
On sizzling pavements.

On the pond's green scum
A yellow butterfly lights;
And then there are two.



Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Presents

Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops

8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Workshop #1

10:30-11 a.m. Refreshments

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Workshop #2

Sunday, Feb. 24, 2008

Copiah-Lincoln Community College
30 Campus Drive

\$15

No. 156

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This is certainly a blues haiku that reminds a reader of the sad, old days on the plantations in the Deep South. To Wright, memory of the south means sadness and homesickness, as described in the following two haiku:

A bloody knife blade
Is being licked by a cat

At hog-killing time. (30)

Don't they make you sad,
Those wild geese winging southward,
O lonely scarecrow? (581)

Haiku 30 and 581, which express Wright's memory of the south, may be the echoes of nostalgia in *12 Million Black Voices* in which he says, "In autumn the land is afire with color. . . hogs are slaughtered and cured in lingering smoke; corn is husked and ground into meal. At twilight the sky is full of wild geese winging ever southward . . ." (32). In a word, the south in Wright's haiku is a place full of dreams, memories, hardships, and loneliness.

Works Cited

- Harrington, Oliver W. *Why I Left America and Other Essays*. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1993.
- Shirane, Haruo. *Traces of Dreams*. Stanford: Stanford UP, 1998.
- Wright, Richard. *Black Boy*. New York: Perennial, 1998.
- . *Haiku: This Other World*. New York: Arcade, 1998.
- . *12 Million Black Voices*. New York: Viking, 1941.

CO-LIN NATCHEZ CALENDAR

September 2008

Mon., Sept. 22 Film Club kick-off, 11:30 a.m., Lecture Hall
Tues., Sept. 23 Adams County Board of Supervisors will hold a forum from 7:30-9 a.m. in the Nelson MP Room, sponsored by the Natchez-Adams County Chamber of Commerce. Breakfast, \$8 at the door.
Tues., Sept. 23 Skills USA meeting, 12:30 p.m., Nelson MP room.
Tues., Sept. 23 Individual yearbook photos, 1-4 p.m., Office of Public Information
Wed., Sept. 24 Individual yearbook photos 8:30-10:30, Office of Public Information
Wed., Sept. 24 **Photo Day for ALL election winners, 11-noon, nice attire (report to Office of Public Information)**
Thurs., Sept. 25 Individual yearbook photos, 1-4 p.m., Office of Public Information
Fri., Sept. 26 Individual yearbook photos, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Office of Public Information
Fri., Sept. 26 Induction Ceremony Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, 11 a.m., Academic Activity Room (invitation only)
Fri., Sept. 26 Individual yearbook photos, 1-4 p.m., Office of Public Information
Sat., Sept. 27 A free 100th birthday symposium honoring the nationally known Natchez author Richard Wright will be held 9:30 a.m.- noon, Sat., Sept. 27, at Historic Natchez Foundation, 108 S. Commerce St. Featured speaker is Wright scholar Jerry W. Ward Jr. of Dillard University, New Orleans. Also on the agenda are Mark LaFrancis and Charles Wright of Natchez, who will present visual programs about Wright, his family and his works. Sponsors of the event are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Historic Natchez Foundation, Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture and Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, in association with Road Scholar and Educational Travel Associates.

The 19th Annual
Natchez Literary and Cinema
Celebration

February 20 - 24, 2008

presents

***Richard Wright, the South,
and the World:
A Centennial Celebration***



Richard Wright and his daughter, Julia, 1944

Headquarters:
Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street • Natchez, Mississippi

Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.

Locations change for certain events.

SPONSORS: COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
NATCHEZ NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK,
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY,
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with partial funding from the
MISSISSIPPI HUMANITIES COUNCIL

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The 60th Diamond



Jubilee Season of the

Natchez Little Theatre

Native Son



Grease
1967's Back to Back Musical
August 2-6, 2007



**MISSISSIPPI
MEDICINE
SHOW**
NLT's Original Steamboat
Musical/Comedy
September 29 - October 14, 2007



Steel Magnolias
A Southern Comedy
November 8 - 11, 2007



A Natchez Christmas Carol
NLT's original holiday musical
December 7-8, 10, 14-16, 2007

**TEN
LITTLE
INDIANS**

Two Little Indians
Agatha Christie Mystery
January 24-27, 2008



**RICHARD WRIGHT
NATIVE SON**
Native Son
Struggle to Survive with
Native Culture & American Society
February 22, 2008



SPRING FLING
March 8 - April 12, 2008



SOUND OF MUSIC
Sound of Music
Musical & American Musical
May 29 - June 1, 2008

Natchez Little Theatre



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Email: natchez@bellsouth.net

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